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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,958	08/23/2004	Alexander Shipp	117-514	1440
23117	7590	01/10/2006	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			LEWIS, ALICIA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2164	
DATE MAILED: 01/10/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,958

Applicant(s)

SHIPP, ALEXANDER

Examiner

Alicia M. Lewis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 July 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in United Kingdom on April 25, 2003. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 0309462.0 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 100, 200 and 300. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: element 1' in Figure 1B and elements 302 and 305 in Figure 3. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1 and 5 are objected to because of the following informalities: the word "and" is missing after the semicolon in line 3 of the claims. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 4-5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoefelmeyer et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2005/0086499 A1) ('Hoefelmeyer').

With respect to claims 1 and 5, Hoefelmeyer discloses a content scanning system for electronic documents such as emails comprising:

a) link analyzer (element 110 in Figure 1, paragraph 24 line 1) for identifying hyperlinks in document content (paragraph 24 lines 4-12);

b) means for causing a content scanner (elements 122, 124 and 126 in Figure 1) to scan objects referenced by links identified by the link analyzer and to determine their acceptability according to predefined rules (paragraph 23 lines 12-15, paragraph 27 lines 1-6, paragraph 28, paragraph 29).

The latter portion of claim 1, which states:

"the means being operative, when the link is to an object external to the document and is determined by the content analyzer to be acceptable, to retrieve the external object and modify the document by replacing the link to the external object by one to a copy of the object stored on a trusted server"

is optional, thus it holds no patentable weight.

With respect to claims 4 and 8, Hoefelmeyer discloses wherein if any linked-to object is determined by the content scanner to be unacceptable the document is flagged or modified to indicate that fact (paragraph 29).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2-3 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoefelmeyer et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2005/0086499 A1) ('Hoefelmeyer') in view of Lambert et al. (US Patent 6,629,138 B1) ('Lambert').

With respect to claims 2 and 6, Hoefelmeyer teaches claims 1 and 5.

Hoefelmeyer does not teach wherein the link analyzer a) and means b) are operative to recursively process links identified in such external objects.

Lambert teaches a method and apparatus for storing and delivering documents on the internet (see abstract), in which he teaches wherein the link analyzer a) and means b) are operative to recursively process links identified in such external objects (column 9 lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hoefelmeyer by the teaching of Lambert

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because wherein the link analyzer a) and means b) are operative to recursively process links identified in such external objects would enable a method to manage passive and active data throughout a network, and offer an improved method and apparatus for storing and delivering information on the Internet (Lambert, column 2 lines 23-26).

With respect to claims 3 and 7, Hoefelmeyer as modified teaches in which only a maximum depth of recursion is permitted and the document is flagged as unacceptable if that limit is reached (Lambert, column 10 lines 6-10).

According to Lambert's invention, the number of levels to search can be used as inclusion/exclusion criteria. Therefore, the maximum number of levels before stopping (maximum depth of recursion) can be used as a reason to exclude a page (or document); this exclusion is similar to flagging a document unacceptable.

Conclusion

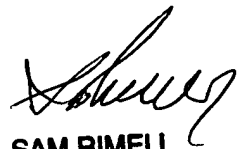
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia M. Lewis whose telephone number is 571-272-5599. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9 - 6:30, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on 571-272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alicia Lewis
January 3, 2006



SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER